



# UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
United States Patent and Trademark Office  
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450  
www.uspto.gov

10/13

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/756,354	01/14/2004	Bradley P. Glassman	025562.0012-US01	3208
26853	7590	07/28/2005	EXAMINER	
COVINGTON & BURLING ATTN: PATENT DOCKETING 1201 PENNSYLVANIA AVENUE, N.W. WASHINGTON, DC 20004-2401			HOWARD, SHARON LEE	
		ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER	
		1615		
DATE MAILED: 07/28/2005				

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

<b>Office Action Summary</b>	<b>Application No.</b>	<b>Applicant(s)</b>	
	10/756,354	GLASSMAN ET AL.	
Examiner	Art Unit		
Sharon L. Howard	1615		

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

### **Period for Reply**

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
  - If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
  - If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
  - Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

## Status

- 1)  Responsive to communication(s) filed on 12/29/04, 1/14/04, 5/13/05.

2a)  This action is **FINAL**.                            2b)  This action is non-final.

3)  Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

## **Disposition of Claims**

- 4)  Claim(s) 1-13 is/are pending in the application.  
4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.  
5)  Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.  
6)  Claim(s) 1-13 is/are rejected.  
7)  Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.  
8)  Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

## Application Papers

- 9)  The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)  The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a)  accepted or b)  objected to by the Examiner.

Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11)  The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12)  Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).  
a)  All    b)  Some \* c)  None of:  
1.  Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.  
2.  Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.  
3.  Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

**Attachment(s)**

- 1)  Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)  
2)  Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)  
3)  Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)  
    Paper No(s)/Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_

4)  Interview Summary (PTO-413)  
    Paper No(s)/Mail Date. \_\_\_\_\_ .  
5)  Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)  
6)  Other: \_\_\_\_\_

*Receipt of the IDS filed on 12/29/04 and 1/14/04, the remarks and the amendment filed on 5/13/05 have been acknowledged. Claims 1,7 and 12 are currently amended.*

*Claims 1-13 are pending.*

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

The factual inquiries set forth in *Graham v. John Deere Co.*, 383 U.S. 1, 148 USPQ 459 (1966), that are applied for establishing a background for determining obviousness under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) are summarized as follows:

1. Determining the scope and contents of the prior art.
2. Ascertaining the differences between the prior art and the claims at issue.
3. Resolving the level of ordinary skill in the pertinent art.
4. Considering objective evidence present in the application indicating obviousness or nonobviousness.

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 1-13 remain rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over the Sun (WO 96/19186) document in view of Chodosh (U.S. Patent No. 5,661,170).

The WO '186 document teaches a method of treating fungal diseases in nails comprising administering to the nail, a composition comprising (see abstract, page 7, lines 9-20) urea in the amount from about 1% to about 50% (page 6, lines 33-37, bridging page 7, lines 1-5, page 10, lines 41-47), an antioxidant consisting of 10.0% of N-acetyl-1-cysteine, 3.0% of mineral oil (see Formulation D – Formulation K on pages 29-31).

The WO '186 document does not particularly teach Vitamin E.

However, Chodosh teaches antimicrobial compositions and methods for using said compositions for treating bacterial infections of the nails or for treating onychomycosis, comprising vitamin E (see col.5, line 62) which is an antioxidant known for protecting cells from oxidation, including a fatty alcohol such as oleyl alcohol and another ingredient consisting of urea (col.6, lines 6-8). The document discloses that it is known in the art that the compositions can be applied as a gel, lotion or as a cleanser, as well as an ointment, salve or as a paste (col.7, lines 28-30 and at line 37).

Both references teach a composition comprising urea, an antioxidant, mineral oil and a fatty alcohol which is known for treating onychomycosis or bacterial infections of the nails. It is *prima facie* obvious to combine two compositions each of which is taught by the prior art to be useful for the same purpose, in order to form a third composition to be used for the very same purpose. (See *In re Kerkhoven*, 626 F.2d 846, 850, 205 USPQ 1069, 1072 (CCPA 1980).

One having ordinary skill in the art would have been motivated to prepare a third composition by including Vitamin E in the Sun document, because a third composition can be used for the same purpose for treating bacterial infections or fungal diseases of the nails, and one would expect to achieve similar beneficial results. It would therefore have been obvious to combine the teachings of Sun in view of Chodosh.

The expected result would be to provide a method for treating onychomycosis, comprising applying to a nail, a composition comprising urea, Vitamin E and an excipient.

***Response to Arguments***

Applicant's arguments filed 5/13/05 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive. Applicant argues that the Sun PCT thus does not teach or suggest the methods of independent Claims 1 and 7, wherein the administered composition is effective for treating onychomycosis and comprises urea as the sole active antifungal ingredient. Nor does Sun teach or suggest the method of independent Claim 12, wherein the administered composition comprises urea as the sole active antifungal ingredient, and the urea is present in an amount therapeutically effective for treating onychomycosis. Applicants submit that the proposed combination would still not teach or suggest the present claimed invention. The Chodosh patent discloses nothing about using urea as the sole active antifungal ingredient in effectively treating onychomycosis, and as such, it does not remedy the deficiencies of the Sun PCT, noted above, with respect to the independent claims.

In response to applicants arguments, the "comprises" language (as currently amended in claim 1) allows the presence of additional ingredients, that is to say, that while Sun administers these ingredients (i.e. itraconazole, ketoconazole or micronazole nitrate), the "comprises" language opens up the composition to include these ingredients and the claim does not exclude these ingredients. Furthermore, since the

Art Unit: 1615

urea in the claim is effective for treating onychomycosis, then urea in the Sun reference should provide the same results.

All claims are drawn to the same invention claimed in the application prior to the entry of the submission under 37 CFR 1.129(a) and could have been finally rejected on the grounds and art of record in the next Office action if they had been entered in the application prior to entry under 37 CFR 1.129(a). Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL** even though it is a first action after the submission under 37 CFR 1.129(a). See MPEP § 706.07(b). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

***Correspondence***

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Sharon L. Howard whose telephone number is (571) 272-0596. The examiner can normally be reached on 9:00am - 5:00pm.

Art Unit: 1615

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Thurman K. Page can be reached on (571) 272-0602. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-823-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



Sharon Howard  
July 15, 2005



THURMAN K. PAGE  
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER  
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 1600